

Religious Notices.

When ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for these things must first come to pass . . .

Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven.

For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.

And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;

Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

—CHRIST JESUS. (Luke xxi., 9, 10, 11, 25-27, 36.)

Little children it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now there are many antichrists; whereby ye know that it is the last time.

Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.

—JOHN. (I. John ii., 18, 22.)

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

—PETER. (II. Peter iii., 10, 13.)

Eternal Truth is changing the universe. As mortals drop off their mental swaddling clothes, thought expands into expression. "Let there be light," is the perpetual demand of Truth and Love, changing chaos into order and discord into the music of the spheres.

The thunder of Sinai and the Sermon on the Mount are pursuing and will overtake the ages, rebuking in their course all error and proclaiming the kingdom of heaven on earth.

As the mythology of pagan Rome has yielded to a more spiritual idea of Deity, so will our material theories yield to spiritual ideas, until the finite gives place to the infinite, sickness to health, sin to holiness, and God's kingdom comes "in earth, as it is in heaven."

The question, "What is Truth?" convulses the world.

Peals that should startle the slumbering thought from its erroneous dream are partially unheeded; but the last trump has not sounded, or this would not be so. Marvels, calamities, and sin will much more abound as Truth urges upon mortals its resisted claims; but the awful dawning of sin destroys sin, and foreshadows the triumph of truth. God will overturn, until "He come whose right it is."

—MARY BAKER EDDY. (Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, pp. 255, 174, 339, 223.)

THE second appearing of Christ, the Son of God, who is to rule all nations and establish the kingdom of God, the reign of righteousness on earth, is at hand. The prophecy of Isaiah is near fulfillment:

Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. (Isaiah ix., 6.)

Christ's imminence is apparent to all who are able to interpret spiritually the events of 1914 and the succeeding years of warfare, and who are looking for the fulfillment of the promise of Christ Jesus that he would come again. Paul believed Christ's promise, and recorded his faith in the Son of God, in his statement, "Unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." (Hebrews ix., 28.) The Scriptures record the words of Christ Jesus:

The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.

But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.

He said . . . An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou that we go and gather them up?

But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

(Matthew xiii., 24-30.)

Christ has thrust in the sickle. These are the latter days, the time of harvest, in which the tares are being bundled to be burned, while the wheat are being garnered into heavenly places. The tares represent all who have not recognized and acknowledged Christ as the Son of God, also all who for ages have bowed the knee to antichrist. At his first appearing, Christ Jesus proclaimed God as the only creator, and the universe, from the infinitesimal to the infinite, as His work, His body, the manifestation of His eternal self-existence. The Principle of

being is the I AM, who spoke, or commanded through His mouthpiece, the prophet, "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me." Christ testified of his sonship with the Father, and avowed, "The Father that dwelleth in me, He doeth the works." (2)

At his first appearing, Christ Jesus triumphed over the enemy of God, the sin-god, or the carnal man, whose wages is so-called death. "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." (3) The first-born of Spirit, the Son of God, was crucified because of his declaration that there is but one creator, the eternal I AM, Spirit, Mind, whose universe, or body, composed of spiritual ideas, or God's man, whom He made in His own "image" and "likeness,"—is eternal. The demonstrator of God's omnipotence and omnipresence, the Truth-man who voiced the Principle of being, eternal Life and Love, was crucified by those who believed in material generation, which emanates from sexuality and sensuality, the Adam-Eve dream-creation, whose embodied material senses come up in the morning and finally go out in darkness, so-called death. This sin or pseudo mentality, masquerading as man, is opposed to God's man and universe and is doomed to self-extinction. Paul distinguished between the carnal so-called man and the spiritual man, in the following words:

"The carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. . . . But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. . . . For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." (Romans viii., 7, 9, 14.)

The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans vi., 23.)

Antichrist is the enemy of God's man and universe, the "accuser of our brethren," which accused them before our God day and night." (4) The present contention between the mental forces of good and evil, the conflict between Christ and "the dragon and his angels," is prophetic

of the self-extinction of all that opposes Christ, Truth.

God controls His ideas, or children, under His law of eternal Life, Love, and immutable Truth. The I AM, the eternal Spirit or Mind, God, and His spiritual creation—

and there is no other, for God is infinite, All,—is described in the first chapter of Genesis, in which all that God created is good, the emanation of His divine selfhood. The spiritual, individual, immortal man and immortal universe, can never be separated from Principle, God, Mind, Spirit, eternal Life and Love. This is the Science of being, which Jesus demonstrated, and it is as workable as the science of mathematics or music, which must be practised according to the law governing numbers, or tones, rhythm, melody, and harmony.

The imminence of Christ's second appearing, in the events of 1914, was apparent to all whose spiritual development enabled them to read the "signs of the times." Jesus said to the Pharisees and Sadducees, "O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?" (5) In this hour Jesus' denunciation applies to the Pharisees and Sadducees of to-day, who cannot discern the "signs of the times,"—the reappearing of Christ, in verification of his promise to his followers, "I will come again." (6) In 1914 the fulfillment of his mission was apparent, as imparted in the words of God to His prophet:

I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him. (Ezekiel xxi., 27.)

"Though the blood of the Prophets of Freedom be spilled, The Thunder of Sinai cannot be stilled."

"Earth's Martyrs keep step with the strides of God."

(Edwin Liebfried.)

Christian Americans resist the effort of the enemy of democracy to draw them out from their own country, back into a "league of nations," from which in 1776 America once freed herself.

The words of Washington, the father of our country, are becoming audible:

Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair; the event is in the hands of God.

James Monroe, in the immortal Monroe Doctrine, declared:

We should regard any attempt on their part to extend their system [the politico-religious system of Europe] to any portion of this hemisphere, as dangerous to our peace and safety.

Abraham Lincoln, the emancipator of the physical slave, lives, and his words reverberate through the universe:

This nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; . . . government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

The poet asks:

"Abraham Lincoln, how came your power
Of setting Fate's clock to the stroke of Time's hour?"

(Lincoln) "In the quiet of prayer was the world set apart
The better to hear the tick of God's heart."

(Edwin Liebfried.)

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. (John viii., 44.)

Christ Jesus averred, "And I, if I be lifted up . . . will draw all men unto me." (8) God, through His Christ, impelled the Norseman, Leif Ericson, to come out from under the yoke of oppressors, or the reign of autocracy and pagan idolaters, and led him, in the year 1000, to virgin soil, America,—the land to which the invisible Christ was drawing all who were ready to respond to his summons, and who accepted and obeyed—him as their Exemplar and Shepherd. Leif Ericson, the Discoverer of America and the Norse colonists of 1000-1347; the Pilgrims of 1620; the Huguenots and Wallons of 1624, and all the Christian pioneers who followed, came out from among the tares, from those who subscribed to "the divine right of kings," from all who accepted and were governed by pagan philosophy, and from such as once crucified Christ Jesus, the first-born of Spirit. These opposers of Christ would not acknowledge him as the Son of God, and although Christ continued to prove by his mighty works that he was endowed with divine power to execute the law of God, his enemies cried, "Crucify him!" Jesus said to them, "Many good works have I shown you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me?" (9) Yet they continued to deny his sonship and nailed him to the cross. They hoped to extinguish the life of that representative man of Spirit, whose existence is an emanation of eternal Life and Love, the creative Principle of being.

Christ, the Son of God, endowed with the power of Omnipotence, appeared on earth to awaken the dreamers from their mesmeric sleep, the hypnotic lie, the belief of life, truth, and intelligence in matter,—material birth, growth, maturity and decay,—and to redeem humanity from bondage to antichrist. Throughout the Scriptures Jesus denounced the carnal mind and its phenomena,—sin, sickness, and the illusion of death. At Christ's first coming, he proved his teaching and came forth from the tomb, crowned with the glory of immortality, his oneness with eternal Life, whom he declared

After the personal absence of the Son of God, "the light of the world," darkness, or separation from God, again covered "the earth, and gross darkness the people." (10) His faithful disciples struggled to demonstrate the teaching of their Master, and as scribes of Spirit, they left, in the New Testament, a record of their fidelity to their Shepherd and Wayshower to eternal Life. The majority of the people continued to worship material gods. They conceived in sin, and ignored the commandments of Omnipotence, and brought forth sin's wages, so-called sorrow, sickness, and death.

During all this time the invisible eternal Christ, the Son of God, has been on earth,—for "the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof." He has been actively engaged in his warfare against the "prince of the power of darkness," antichrist, in fulfillment of his mission, his final victory over the material world and evil. The manifestation of the Son of God, in verification of his promise, "I will come again," is imminent. His disciples of the first century accepted his pledge and looked for him to complete his work, in the destruction of the so-called dragon. They believed that their Wayshower to immortality would demonstrate his teaching and manifest his spiritual presence, his forever oneness with eternal Life, the omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent I AM.

To-day the tares are being bundled to be burned. Humanity considered the war at an end when the Armistice was signed, but the spiritually illumined, the present-day disciples of Christ, Truth, know that all hate, malice, envy, jealousy, greed, all workers of iniquity, all who bow to other gods, ignoring the law of eternal Life and Love, God, "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me,"—I repeat, the followers of Christ, the Christian Americans, know that these

elements, or tares, have not yet all been destroyed, or burned,—that they have not all come to the moment of self-extinction; but this is inevitable and imminent. Christ will put to silence every lying tongue, or witness for the pretended reality of material birth, growth, maturity, and death, which are the opposite of spiritual birth and spiritual development under the law of eternal Life,—man's immortal birthright.

The tares and wheat cannot continue to grow together. At the harvest, Christ's disciples of all the ages, including those of the present hour, who have suffered with him in their defense of his teaching and in their demonstration of that Mind which was in him,—this wheat of God is being separated from the tares, the tares to be burned, the wheat to be garnered into heavenly places.

For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall the coming of the Son of man be. . . . Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. . . . Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. (Matthew xxiv., 27, 40, 41.)

It is evident that at his second appearing, Christ planted his standard in America, and established God's law and government through the Pilgrims and the Mayflower compact. The spiritual law of God was recognized and executed through the Declaration of Independence; through Washington and our Constitution; through Monroe and the immortal Monroe Doctrine, and through Lincoln in his Emancipation Proclamation. In proof of his words, "And I, if I be lifted up . . . will draw all men unto me," Christ drew to him all who were then ready to respond to the will of God. Thus America, the pilgrim from material sense to Soul, from so-called matter to Mind, began the work under the control of the invisible Christ, for whose coming the pioneer settlers had longed.

The true American, inspired by God and His Christ, knows that America was founded upon spiritual ideals and that her ideals must be defended and preserved. America must free herself from theocratic autocracy and pagan philosophy. It was in America, in 1866, that the voice of Christ was again heard by his disciples of this age, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end." Through years of consecration to his teaching and the study of the Word of God, as imparted to His prophets, from Moses to John the Revelator, Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, awoke to the presence of the Christ. She discerned the Science of eternal being, man's oneness with his Maker, and gave to the world the textbook of Christian Science, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*. She declared:

The foam and fury of illegitimate living and of fearful and doleful dying should disappear on the shore of time; then the waves of sin, sorrow, and death beat in vain. (p. 203.)

The wheat of God, the followers of Christ, are not disturbed by the chaos of mortal mind, which foreshadows the "cosmos of immortal Mind." (11) nor by war, famine, and pestilence, which fulfill the prophecy contained in the Word of God, the Holy Bible, and which is interpreted in the "Key to the Scriptures," *Science and Health*. Our nation, America, is in travail. She is struggling to free herself from the presence of the invader, "the accuser," and the oppressor, whose autocratic human will is opposed to the divine will, upon which Christ founded America. The fruits of obedience to God's will are apparent in the phenomenal prosperity to which America has attained. When Americans bring all their "rites into the storehouse," the promise of God will be fulfilled: "I will pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." (12)

Christ, God's vicegerent, is on the field, keeping watch above his own. All who possess the Mind of Christ are assured of his presence and are sustained by his protecting power. The travail, the birth throes, will continue, until everything that "worketh or maketh a lie," until all who are under the yoke of human despotism, bondage to the mental elements of the carnal mind,—hate,

greed, avarice, envy, lust of the flesh and pride of human power; until all who pay obedience to "the divine right of kings, and persist in endeavoring to serve two gods; until all who live in the Adam-dream of life and intelligence in so-called matter, with its pains and pleasures; until all these shall be expelled from the land of the redeemed, or Christ's domain.

War will continue, until the final bundling of all tares will be manifest. At length every knee throughout the world will bend to the omnipotent creator, eternal Life and Love, and Christ, the "King of kings and Lord of lords," will rule all nations under the law of righteousness. John the Revelator gives a full description of this imminent cataclysm, the final conflagration, the "consuming fire" of God, or the burning prophesied throughout the Bible:

Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen . . .

Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, that ye receive not of her plagues.

And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning.

And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise [the phenomena of mortal thought] any more.

Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her.

And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone [the stone, Christ, which the builders of Babylon rejected], and cast it into the sea [of human concepts], saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee.

And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee; for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived. (Revelation xviii., 2, 3, 9, 11, 19-23.)

Babylon typifies the multitudes of the worshippers of antichrist, all who are without understanding, who deny, or rebel against the law of Life and Love, which Christ, the Son of God, executes.

The meekness which gave Christ his mighty power was attained by Mary Baker Eddy, when throughout her writings she condemned carnality and sensuality and rebuked it under every mask; and the followers of Christ in this age are striving to possess that Mind which was in him, that they may continue to fulfill the law of love for God and man and free our nation from those whom Christ denounced when he declared:

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. . . . Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell? (Matthew xxiii., 27, 33.)

On the cross Christ triumphed over the dream,—death. History records but one death grapple (twixt old systems and the word); but history will record another. A second death grapple between human autocracy, pagan philosophy, and Christ, or the Word of God, is strikingly apparent, even to those who possess but in a small degree the Mind of Christ. The power of the Son of God over the mythical so-called mortal man and his claim to life and intelligence in matter is near a final demonstration.

Pagan nations and all who are under "the divine right of kings," human autocracy; all who are swayed by the evil mental qualities, hate, malice, greed, lust, revenge, avarice, personal ambition, arrogant human pride, human will; all peoples who oppose the will of God and His Christ—these tares fanned themselves into fury in 1914 to preserve the reign of antichrist, and to wage further war with Christ and with them that are Christ's. The mythical dragon and his hosts continue to contend for supremacy. They are resolved to occupy Christ's domain, America; but they are meeting the resistance of the invisible Christ and the innumerable hosts of his invisible disciples, from Moses to this hour—for man is immortal, there is no death; and these hosts, together with his followers of to-day, he bids, "Occupy till I appear." Christian Americans resist the effort of the enemy of democracy to draw them out from their country, back into a "league of nations," from which in 1776 America once freed herself. Americans must defend their country and purge it of elements which are foreign to its mental soil.

Christ is separating the tares from the wheat. All must finally yield to the law of God and His Christ and become obedient followers of the meek and lowly One, who triumphed over the dream-experience, death. The self-imposed suffering and torture of the animal qualities which compose the fleshly so-called man will finally cause all nations to submit to the law of righteousness, and the Mind which was in Christ Jesus will eventually establish throughout the world the spiritual brotherhood of man.

Pagan nations, governed by the law of sin, cannot forever perpetuate a generation, which prolongs suffering, sorrow and terminations in death, and which continues, at this hour, to crucify Christ at his second appearing. These warring elements, the mental forces of the so-called carnal mind—hypnotism, mesmerism, occultism, necromancy, esoteric magic, etc.—compose the "league of nations." Their subtle sophistry is striving with all its claim to power and presence, to draw from America the defenders of Christ's Christianity. Americans will remain on their own soil, and defend their own heritage. Christ will complete his mission. He will apply his rod, divine love, to all peoples, throughout the nations, until all acknowledge God, eternal Life and Love, as the Father of man.

The soldiers of Christ compose the innumerable and invisible host, augmented by the visible disciples of to-day. Thus Christ's great army of the past and present are united in their allegiance to the oncoming "King of kings." This visible and invisible host wear in their foreheads "the white stone," "the stone which the builders [of Babylon, the carnal mind] rejected." It is the stone upon which America was founded.

This host is armed with "the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God," and is under the command of "the Prince of Peace." Standing upon their own soil, America, and guarded by the God of Israel, they will defend their country and Christ will deliver America from all who are opposed to God and His Christ. Democracy cannot unite with autocracy and pagan idolaters, to save that which Christ alone is able to save by applying his rod—the power of the law of God, eternal Life and Love.

True Americans will continue to stand upon their own soil with Christ. They will obey the law of God; and the potency of Love, Life and Truth, which they reflect, will finally reach all nations and will enable humanity to pass through the exalting experiences, the suffering out of the fleshly or carnal pseudo mind, which the Master endured, that he might redeem his immortality. They will ultimately attain the humility which exhorts the divine nature in man, and unites him to his creator.

Finally "every knee shall bow . . . and every tongue shall confess" that there is but one God, one Father—Mother, eternal Life and Love, and that all men are brethren. Then will be revealed the "new heaven" and the "new earth" for the first heaven and earth will have passed away. (13) Then will end the conflict between God and His Christ against the "dragon and his angels," the so-called carnal man. Then "the wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose," (14) "and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things" [thoughts] will have "passed away." (15)

Americans cannot unite with the world of theocratic autocracy. Classification is inevitable. Contention is not yet ended. It will continue until Spirit compels the recognition of God and the spiritual universe, as the only reality of being.

Again we emphasize the spiritual fact, that all mental elements of the so-called carnal man, which oppose God, must end in self-extinction. Whoever possesses the qualities of the carnal mind and is found among the tares, whether they be located in Europe or in America, cannot escape the bundling and burning.

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The wheat will remain in America and will continue to defend their Declaration of Independence, their Constitution, their Monroe Doctrine, and their sacred rights. They will eventually put on the full armor of faith and understanding; they will fulfill the law of Love, and ultimately the relation of man to his Maker, his Father, God, and to his brother man, will be established.

America! thou gavest birth To light that lighteth all the earth. God keep thy power!

We love that onward leading light: We will defend it with our might; It shall endure!

America, on pressing van Of all the hopes of waking man, We love thy flag!

Thy stately flag of stendard stars, And white, close held to heart-red bars,

Which none shall drag! America, faith-shadowed land, Truth dwells in thee, and truth shall stand

To guard thy gate, Its planted seed of potent good Shall grow to world-wide brotherhood.

Man's true estate. America, the God of Love, Whose name is every name above, Is thy defense.

'Tis thou must lead the longing world From phantom fears, to Love's unfurled Omnipotence.

—Alice Morgan Harrison.

(13) Revelation xxi., 1.

(14) Revelation xxi., 4.

(15) Revelation xxi., 4.

Augusta E. Stebbins.